

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIE-00

CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 IO-12 AID-20 RSR-01

/104 W

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O 302301 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6795

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2583

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CU US OAS

SUBJECT: OASGA CUBA POLICY

REF: STATE 058440

1. SUMMARY: BELIEVE COLOMBIA SHOULD BE RATED AT BEST AS UNCERTAIN. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED OPINION THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD BE RELEASED TO GO THEIR OWN WAY EVEN THOUGH COLOMBIA HAS NO INTENTIONS OF REESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH CUBA. I AM TO DISCUSS SUBJECT FULLY WITH HIM MONDAY, APRIL 2 (TIME NOT YET SET). END SUMMARY

2. AT PRESIDENTIAL LUNCHEON MAR 30 I TOLD FONMIN VAZQUEZ CARRIZOSA THAT I HAD SOUGHT AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE HIM TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF CUBA THAT MIGHT COME UP IN OASGA. VAZQUEZ SAID HE WOULD CALL ME AND GIVE ME TIME ON MONDAY APRIL 2 (HE LEAVES FOR WASHDC MORNING APRIL 3).

3. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IT SEEMED UNAVOIDABLE THAT ISSUE WILL COME UP AND, GIVEN THE PRESENT SITUATION, HE SAW NO REASON FOR OPPOSING THE RELEASING OF MEMBER COUNTRIES FROM THE OAS RESOLUTION

AND ALLOWING THEM TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES WHETHER THEY WISH TO RENEW RELATIONS OR NOT. THE WHOLE WORLD BELIEVES THAT THE U. S. ITSELF HAS CHANGED ITS POSITION DESPITE PROTESTATIONS TO THE
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CONTRARY. COLOMBIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY INTENTIONS OF REESTABLISHING

RELATIONS BUT SEES NO GREAT VALUE IN MAINTAINING THE CURRENT
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THOSE WHO MAY CHOOSE OTHERWISE.
TO THE CONTRARY PERSISTENCE IN THE PROHIBITION WILL WEAKEN
THE WHOLE (OAS) SYSTEM.

4. HE NOTED THAT VENEZUELA WAS IN FAVOR OF CHANGE-- WHICH OF
COURSE I COULD NOT DENY-- AND SURMISED THAT WITH POLITICAL
TURNABOUT ARGENTINA THAT COUNTRY WOULD GO FOR CHANGE ALSO.
I RESPONDED THAT WE SAW THE MAJORITY OPPOSED TO CHANGE AND THAT
WE OURSELVES FELT VERY STRONGLY AGAINST RELAXING THE OAS RESOLUTIONS.

6. COMMENT: I WOULD SEE NO DIFFICULTY IN PERSUADING COLOMBIA
TO GO ALONG WITH A BROAD RESOLUTION CALLING FOR QUOTE NORMAL
UNQUOTE RELATIONS PROVIDED AS WE SAY THAT THE RESOLUTION REAFFIRM
THE PRINCIPAL OF NON- INTERVENTION AND THE OBLIGATION OF STATES
TO REFRAIN FROM SUBVERSIVE ACTS AGAINST OTHER STATES, BUT
I DO SEE A PROBLEM IN GETTING GOC TO HOLD THE LINE WITH US AGAINST
ANY CHANGE. HAVE SENT HIM HURWITCH STATEMENT BEFORE SENATE
SUBCOMMITTEE.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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